

ORIGINAL
IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS DIVISION

CLERK US DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DIST. OF TX
FILED

2016 MAY 19 PM 3:03

DEPUTY CLERK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

No. 3:15-CR-0164-B

BYRON FELTON CONNER (06)

PLEA AGREEMENT

The defendant, **Byron Felton Conner**, the defendant's attorney, Deborah Kernan, and the United States of America (the government), agree as follows:

1. **Rights of the defendant:** The defendant understands that he has the rights
 - (a) to plead not guilty;
 - (b) to have a trial by jury;
 - (c) to have his guilt proven beyond a reasonable doubt;
 - (d) to confront and cross-examine witnesses and to call witnesses in his defense; and
 - (e) against compelled self-incrimination.

2. **Waiver of rights and plea of guilty:** The defendant waives these rights, and pleads guilty to the offense alleged in Count One of the Superseding Information, charging a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (18 U.S.C. § 1347), that is, conspiracy to commit health care fraud. The defendant understands the nature and elements of the crime to which he is pleading guilty, and agrees that the factual resume he has signed is true and will be submitted as evidence.

3. **Sentence:** The maximum penalties the Court can impose include:

- (a) imprisonment for a period not to exceed five years;
- (b) a fine not more than \$250,000 or twice any pecuniary gain to the defendant or loss to the victim(s);
- (c) a term of supervised release of not more than three years, which may be mandatory under the law and will follow any term of imprisonment. If the defendant violates the conditions of supervised release, he could be imprisoned for the entire term of supervised release;
- (d) a mandatory special assessment of \$100;
- (e) restitution to victims or to the community, which may be mandatory under the law, and which the defendant agrees may include restitution arising from all relevant conduct, not limited to that arising from the offense of conviction alone;
- (f) costs of incarceration and supervision, and
- (g) forfeiture of property.

4. **Court's sentencing discretion and role of the Guidelines:** The defendant understands that the sentence in this case will be imposed by the Court after consideration of the United States Sentencing Guidelines. The guidelines are not binding on the Court, but are advisory only. The defendant has reviewed the guidelines with his attorney, but understands no one can predict with certainty the outcome of the Court's consideration of the guidelines in this case. The defendant will not be allowed to withdraw his plea if his sentence is higher than expected. The defendant fully understands that the actual sentence imposed (so long as it is within the statutory maximum) is solely in the discretion of the Court.

5. **Mandatory special assessment:** Prior to sentencing, the defendant agrees to pay to the U.S. District Clerk the amount of \$100.00 in satisfaction of the mandatory special assessment in this case.

6. **Defendant's agreement:** The defendant shall give complete and truthful information and/or testimony concerning his participation in the offense of conviction. Upon demand, the defendant shall submit a personal financial statement under oath and submit to interviews by the government and the U.S. Probation Office regarding his capacity to satisfy any fines or restitution. The defendant expressly authorizes the United States Attorney's Office to immediately obtain a credit report on him in order to evaluate his ability to satisfy any financial obligation imposed by the Court. The defendant fully understands that any financial obligation imposed by the Court, including a restitution order and/or the implementation of a fine, is due and payable immediately. In the event the Court imposes a schedule for payment of restitution, the defendant agrees that such a schedule represents a minimum payment obligation and does not preclude the U.S. Attorney's Office from pursuing any other means by which to satisfy the defendant's full and immediately enforceable financial obligation. The defendant understands that he has a continuing obligation to pay in full as soon as possible any financial obligation imposed by the Court.

7. **Restitution:** Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3663(a)(1)(3), the defendant agrees to pay restitution for losses resulting from all of his criminal conduct, and understands that restitution will not be limited to losses stemming from the offense of conviction alone.

8. Exclusion from the Medicare Program and Other Federal Health Care

Programs: The defendant understands and acknowledges that as a result of this plea, he will be excluded from Medicare, Medicaid, and all Federal health care programs. The defendant agrees to complete and execute all necessary documents provided by any department or agency of the federal government, including but not limited to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, to effectuate this exclusion within 60 days of receiving the documents. This exclusion will not affect the defendant's right to apply for and receive benefits as a beneficiary under any Federal health care program, including Medicare and Medicaid.

9. Government's agreement: The government will not bring any additional charges against the defendant based upon the conduct underlying and related to the defendant's plea of guilty. The government will file a Supplement in this case, as is routinely done in every case, even though there may not be any additional terms. The government will dismiss, after sentencing, any remaining charges against the defendant in the Second Superseding Indictment. This agreement is limited to the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Texas and does not bind any other federal, state, or local prosecuting authorities, nor does it prohibit any civil or administrative proceeding against the defendant or any property.

10. Violation of agreement: The defendant understands that if he violates any provision of this agreement, or if his guilty plea is vacated or withdrawn, the government will be free from any obligations of the agreement and free to prosecute the defendant for all offenses of which it has knowledge. In such event, the defendant waives any

objections based upon delay in prosecution. If the plea is vacated or withdrawn for any reason other than a finding that it was involuntary, the defendant also waives objection to the use against him of any information or statements he has provided to the government, and any resulting leads.

11. **Voluntary plea:** This plea of guilty is freely and voluntarily made and is not the result of force or threats, or of promises apart from those set forth in this plea agreement. There have been no guarantees or promises from anyone as to what sentence the Court will impose.


12. **Waiver of right to appeal or otherwise challenge sentence:** The defendant waives his rights, conferred by 28 U.S.C. § 1291 and 18 U.S.C. § 3742, to appeal the conviction, sentence, fine and order of restitution or forfeiture in an amount to be determined by the District Court. He further waives his right to contest the conviction, sentence, fine and order of restitution or forfeiture in any collateral proceeding, including proceedings under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 and 28 U.S.C. § 2255. The defendant, however, reserves the rights (a) to bring a direct appeal of (i) a sentence exceeding the statutory maximum punishment, or (ii) an arithmetic error at sentencing, (b) to challenge the voluntariness of his plea of guilty or this waiver, and (c) to bring a claim of ineffective assistance of counsel.

13. **Representation of counsel:** The defendant has thoroughly reviewed all legal and factual aspects of this case with his lawyer and is fully satisfied with that lawyer's legal representation. The defendant has received from his lawyer explanations satisfactory to him concerning each paragraph of this plea agreement, each of his rights


affected by this agreement, and the alternatives available to him other than entering into this agreement. Because he concedes that he is guilty, and after conferring with his lawyer, the defendant has concluded that it is in his best interest to enter into this plea agreement and all its terms, rather than to proceed to trial in this case.

14. **Entirety of agreement:** This document is a complete statement of the parties' agreement and may not be modified unless the modification is in writing and signed by all parties.

AGREED TO AND SIGNED this 18th day of May, 2016.




BYRON FELTON CONNER
Defendant




DEBORAH KERNAN
Counsel for Defendant

JOHN R. PARKER
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY



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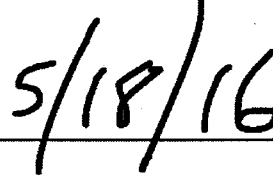


LISA J. DUNN
Deputy Criminal Chief

I have read (or had read to me) this Plea Agreement and have carefully reviewed every part of it with my attorney. I fully understand it and voluntarily agree to it.



BYRON FELTON CONNER
Defendant

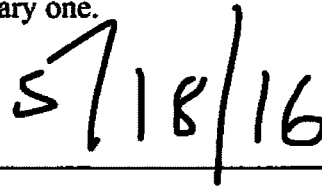


Date

I am the defendant's counsel. I have carefully reviewed every part of this Plea Agreement with the defendant. To my knowledge and belief, my client's decision to enter into this Plea Agreement is an informed and voluntary one.



DEBORAH KERNAN
Counsel for Defendant



Date